

Five years of Media, plague uncontrollable

The myth of free media , a song which was played with so much of fanfare and hype has finally comes to an end. My generation of sixties were raised in government media influence and were given the impression that free media is the only cure of all our maladies.

Since 1990 we all have seen a mushroom rise in media. Newspapers, web browsing, and cable network, endless talk shows, debates and comments. I like so many others watched and followed them intently and intensively but now I simply cannot watch them for more than a second.

Mockery, cheap jokes, biased reporting, shallow knowledge, corruption, nepotism, profit at all cost has been the hall mark of our media in these last five years. It comes as no surprise that two assemblies {Punjab & National assembly} passed unanimous resolutions on the conduct of media.

Media houses are family business, sons following father with little education in journalism. A wall of iron is erected around these media houses, who owns them , what are the qualifications of these journalists, how many have dual nationalities, how they are paid, all is shrouded in mystery.

Artists {so called} of theatre are now the commentators of international affairs, dancers and Marasi are now passing judgement on national security. Women with heavy make up and equally heavy shrilling voice are calling the shots of day.

The workers of media are not paid according to any government formula rather the media houses have their own way of paying them , what is that ? none knows. Scant regards for own culture, showing dances on Shab e Baraat {Ary TV} fuelling ethnic hatred , class conflicts, depicting an pessimistic view of country, mockery of institutions. Every night like pimps of Heera Mandi they sat around a table, laughing and passing remarks on national and international issues.

I have nothing but pity to the husbands of these anchor women, they talk loudly, are not willing to listen, interrupt you in discussion, have shrilling voice, give impression of being intelligent which they seldom are.

Media has been the biggest plague of these five years, lets hope it will be over.